

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUSSEL 01228 211439Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3219  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMCONSUL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
USAREUR HEIDELBERG  
USAFC RAMSTEIN  
USCINCEUR STUTTGART

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 1228

MILITARY ADDEES FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, GW, SW  
SUBJECT: LIFE SENTENCES FOR THE DEFENDANTS OF THE STOCKHOLM TRIAL

REF: 76 DUSSELDORF A-112, DUSSELDORF A-91

1. ON JULY 20, 1977, THE 99TH DAY OF THE TRIAL THE NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIAN (NRW) STATE SUPREME COURT FOUND THE FOUR DEFENDANTS, HANNA ELISE KRABBE, LUTZ MANFRED TAUFER, BERNHARD MARIA ROESSNER AND KARL-HEINZ DELLWO, GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF GERMAN MILITARY ATTACHE ANDREAS BARON VON MIRBACH AND COMMERCIAL ATTACHE DR. HEINZ HILLEGAARD IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THEIR ATTACK ON THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM ON APRIL 24, 1975. THE PRESIDING JUDGE HERMANN JOSEF MUELLER PRONOUNCED A DOUBLE LIFE SENTENCE FOR EACH OF THE DEFENDANTS.

2. THE DEFENDANTS AND ABOUT TWO DOZEN SYMPATHIZERS IN THE AUDIENCE RESPONDED TO THE PRONOUNCEMENT WITH

NOISY DEMONSTRATIONS. THE DEMONSTRATING SYMPATHIZERS  
WERE REMOVED FROM THE COURT ROOM AND THE DEFENDANTS  
WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE REST OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

3. IN HIS ARGUMENT FOR THE SENTENCE THE PRESIDING  
JUDGE NOTED THAT THE SIX ATTACKERS OF THE EMBASSY,  
TWO OF WHOM (ULLRICH WESSEL AND SIEGFRIED HAUSNER)  
DIED AFTER AN EXPLOSION IN THE EMBASSY, HAD ADMITTED  
TO HAVE FORMED A CONSPIRACY TO ATTACK THE EMBASSY, TO  
TAKE HOSTAGES TO EFFECT THE RELEASE OF 26 TERRORISTS  
AND TO BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTION COLLECTIVELY.  
DURING THE TRIAL THE FOUR DEFENDANTS HAD EXPRESSLY  
ADMITTED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR KILLING VON MIRBACH  
AND HILLEGAARD (SEE A-112). ALTHOUGH THE PAINSTAKING  
COURT HEARINGS WITH 60 WITNESSES AND 12 EXPERTS, MANY  
OF WHICH WERE HEARD SEVERAL TIMES, COULD NOT PIN THE  
MURDERS ON ONE INDIVIDUAL, THE COURT WAS SATISFIED  
WITH THE EVIDENCE PRESENTED. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE  
EXPLOSION COULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED, BUT THE COURT RULED  
OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A THIRD PARTY BEING INVOLVED,  
AS CLAIMED BY THE DEFENDANTS.

4. THE SENTENCE WAS PRECEDED BY THE PLEADINGS OF THE  
DEFENSE LAWYERS AND PERSONAL STATEMENTS BY THE  
DEFENDANTS. DR. KLAUS CROISSANT (MEANWHILE "EMIGRATED"  
TO FRANCE, AS ONE OF THE DEFENDANTS SAID) HANS  
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CHRISTIAN STROEBELE, AND THE DEFENDANTS CLAIMED THAT THE  
DEFENDANTS WERE ARMED COMBATTANTS OF THE RED ARMY  
FACTION (RAF) AT WAR WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND  
SHOULD BE TREATED AS PRISONERS OF WAR. THE COURT-  
APPOINTED DEFENSE LAWYERS PLEADED FOR A LIMITED  
INSTEAD OF A LIFE SENTENCE.

5. THE DEFENDANTS HAVE BEEN ON A HUNGER STRIKE SINCE  
JUNE 22, 1977 TO ENFORCE THEIR DEMAND FOR TRANSFER TO  
THE STAMMHEIM PRISON NEAR STUTTGART WHERE MEMBERS OF  
THE BAADER-MEINHOFF GANG ARE BEING DETAINED.DUX

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, GE, SW, (KRABBE, HANNA ELISE), (TAUFER, LUTZ MANFRED), (ROESSNER, BERNHARD MARIA), (DELLWO, KARL-HEINZ), (BARON VON MIRBACH, ANDREAS)  
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